



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **USDA Rural Development Recognizes Fort Riley Deputy Commander**

### ***Affordable Housing Made Available To Soldiers & Communities***

**Topeka, KS –** USDA Rural Development Acting State Director Darla Buckman announced the Agency has recognized Linda Hoeffner, Fort Riley Deputy Garrison Commander and Carol Horting, USDA Rural Development Area Specialist, for their support of the Agency's 'Fort Riley Regional Initiative'

"It's an outstanding partnership between Fort Riley and USDA Rural Development. From the signing of the historic Memorandum of Understanding between the two entities to the opening of the USDA Rural Development housing office at Fort Riley, cooperation with Linda Hoeffner, Deputy Garrison Commander, has been remarkable. The Agency is providing important assistance to help both Soldiers and civilian homebuyers in the region. The BRAC related personnel expansion at Fort Riley has also provided communities in the region an excellent opportunity to expand affordable housing and enhance local infrastructure, and the Agency is committed to supporting this economic development," commented Acting State Director Buckman.

USDA Rural Development's 'Fort Riley Regional Initiative', created as a result of the historic Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Agency and Fort Riley on June 27, 2005, has resulted in strong partnerships with the Deputy Garrison Commander, Housing Service Office, ACS Relocation Readiness, and the Retirement Services Office, along with the numerous communities in the region impacted by the Post's expansion.

Carol Horting, USDA Rural Development Area Specialist has staffed the Agency's satellite office at Carr Hall on post since December 1, 2005. USDA Rural Development's Fort Riley Office is devoted to assisting the soldiers and civilian homebuyers with their off-post homeownership needs. Agency services at this special USDA housing office include the homeownership loan pre-qualification process, homebuyer counseling, and a general review of financing options for those desiring to purchase a home. The Agency's office is located on the second floor at Carr Hall, 45 Barry Avenue, Fort Riley.

Additional information regarding USDA Rural Development's 'Fort Riley Regional Initiative' can be obtained by contacting the Agency's Manhattan office at 785-776-7582 (extension #4).

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs that support increasing economic opportunities and enhancing the quality of life for rural Americans. USDA Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure in rural America. For additional information regarding all USDA Rural Development programs, contact the Agency at 785-271-2700 or visit the Agency's Kansas website at [www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks)

***USDA Rural Development – Committed to the future of rural communities.***

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